

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

EA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAJ-01 ACDA-07 ERDA-05

ERDE-00 NRC-05 OES-06 IO-13 FEAE-00 AID-05 EB-07

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00 MC-02

XMB-02 EURE-00 /130 W

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O P 091730Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO USDEL SECRETARY AIRCRAFT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3788

USDEL DEAUVILLE IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR FR US PAK ENRG

SUBJECT: MORE PRESS ON THE FRENCH/PAKISTAN NUCLEAR
PLANT DEAL

REF: PARIS 23034 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: THE CONTROVERSY OVER FRENCH SALE TO PAKISTAN
OF A NUCLEAR REPROCESSING PLANT IS RECEIVING GROWING
TREATMENT IN THE FRENCH PRESS. CERTAIN PUBLICATIONS
ACCUSE THE US OF BLACKMAIL AND UNFAIR PRESSURES IN THE
NUCLEAR FIELD. POST REPRODUCES HEREWITH, IN TOTO, AN
EDITORIAL THAT APPEARED IN "LE MONDE" DATED AUGUST 10.
THE ARTICLE IS, IN MARKED CONTRAST TO MOST OTHER COM-
MENTS, A GENERALLY BALANCED EVALUATION OF THE PROBLEM.
ALTHOUGH LABELING THE SECRETARY'S DEMARCHE TOO MUCH OF
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A "DIKTAT" TO BE ACCEPTABLE, IT ADMITS THAT FEARS OF THE

UNITED STATES AND OTHER COUNTRIES CONCERNING THE PROLIFERATION ABROAD OF A CAPACITY TO PRODUCE ATOMIC WEAPONS ARE LEGITIMATE. END SUMMARY.

1. QUOTE (UNOFFICIAL EMBASSY TRANSLATION): WILL MR. BHUTTO BEND OR NOT BEFORE THE INJUNCTIONS OF MR. KISSINGER? WILL FRANCE, HAVING MADE AN AGREEMENT OF THE SAME NATURE WITH SOUTH KOREA, PUT IN QUESTION "ON ITS OWN INITIATIVE" ITS PROMISE TO FURNISH A REPROCESSING PLANT TO A THIRD WORLD COUNTRY IN SPITE OF THE OBJECTIONS OF THE UNITED STATES? THE NEAR FUTURE WILL TELL. FOR THE MOMENT ONE CAN ONLY NOTE THE FIRMNESS OF THE PRESURE AND THE UNACCUSTOMED CHARACTER THAT MR. KISSINGER GAVE TO HIS REMARKS.

2. QUOTE: THE AMERICAN POSITION ON THE SALE OF NUCLEAR EQUIPMENT IS WELL KNOWN. THE UNANIMITY OF PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES ON THIS POINT HAS RENDERED THIS POSITION THIS YEAR EVEN MORE EMPHATIC: THE FIRST MAJOR PROJECT OPENED BY MR. CARTER ON THE SUBJECT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS WAS A LIST OF EXTREMELY STRINGENT MEASURES AIMED AT AVOIDING THE PROLIFERATION OF ATOMIC WEAPONS AND THE DANGERS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT.

3. QUOTE: IN ESSENCE, WASHINGTON HAS NO OBJECTION TO THE EXPORTATION OF NUCLEAR PLANTS AND IN FACT EXPORTS THEM FREELY, AS WITNESSED BY THE ACCORD THAT MR. KISSINGER JUST CONFIRMED AT TEHRAN FOR THE SUPPLY TO IRAN OF SIX TO EIGHT REACTORS. ON THE OTHER HAND, AMERICANS CONSIDER THAT PLANTS FOR THE REPROCESSING OF IRRADIATED FUELS, PLANTS THAT ARE PRODUCERS OF PLUTONIUM, HAVE PRACTICALLY NO REASON FOR BEING OTHER THAN THE FABRICATION OF BOMBS. NOT ONLY DOES THE UNITED STATES FORBID THE SALE OF THESE PLANTS--AND ALREADY A SENATE RESOLUTION HAS ASKED THAT AMERICAN AID BE REFUSED TO ANY COUNTRY THAT ACQUIRES SUCH AN INSTALLATION--BUT THEY CONSIDER THE GUARANTEES OUTLINED ON THIS SUBJECT BY THE ATOMIC AGENCY OF VIENNA TO BE INSUFFICIENT. AS THEY ASKED WITHOUT SUCCESS AT THE CONFERENCE OF EXPORTING COUNTRIES HELD IN LONDON LAST YEAR, THE US WISHES THAT REPROCESS-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ING, IF IT MUST TAKE PLACE, BE CONFINED TO INTERNATIONAL PLANTS SITUATED ELSEWHERE THAN IN THE UTILIZING COUNTRIES. IT IS IN USING THE SAME ARGUMENTS THAT THE US OPPOSED, ALSO WITHOUT SUCCESS, A GERMAN-BRAZILIAN AGREEMENT, THE MOST IMPORTANT AGREEMENT OF THIS TYPE TO DATE IN THE ATOMIC ENERGY FIELD.

4. QUOTE: WITHOUT DOUBT ONE MIGHT EASILY BELIEVE THAT

WASHINGTON WOULD WISH WELL-PLACED AMERICAN FIRMS TO TAKE OVER THE MARKET OF THESE INTERNATIONAL PLANTS. HOWEVER, THE AMERICAN POINT OF VIEW IS NOT ONLY DIRECTED BY MERCANTILE CONSIDERATIONS, BUT IT IS ALSO LARGELY UPHELD BY MOST OF THE PUBLIC OPINION IN THE UNITED STATES. CRITICISM IS BROUGHT TO BEAR RATHER ON THE INSUFFICIENT OR TARDY NATURE OF THE AMERICAN POSITION.

5. QUOTE: WITHOUT DOUBT WASHINGTON IS NOT MISTAKEN IN SUSPECTING THE PEACEFUL INTENTIONS PROCLAIMED BY POTENTIAL PURCHASERS OF THIS TYPE OF EQUIPMENT. THEY ALL SAY THAT THE GOAL OF THE PURCHASES IS EXCLUSIVELY PEACE-

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FUL; BUT, AS IF BY CHANCE, THE COUNTRIES SEEKING TO ACQUIRE A REPROCESSING PLANT ARE THOSE THAT HAVE GOOD POLITICAL OR GEOGRAPHIC REASONS FOR WANTING TO ACQUIRE ATOMIC ARMS: SOUTH KOREA, THE COUNTRY MOST EXPOSED IN ASIA TODAY; PAKISTAN, WHOSE NEIGHBOR AND RIVAL, INDIA, SET OFF ITS FIRST "PEACEFUL BOMB" TWO YEARS AGO; BRAZIL, WHO WANTS TO BE THE MAJOR LATIN AMERICAN POWER.

6. QUOTE: IN THIS AFFAIR THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAS RIGHT ON ITS SIDE, SINCE THE ATOMIC AGENCY OF VIENNA APPROVED ITS ACCORD WITH PAKISTAN EVEN THOUGH FRANCE COULD HAVE DONE WITHOUT VIENNA'S APPROVAL (FRANCE LIKE PAKISTAN HAS NOT SIGNED THE NONPROLIFERATION TREATY). FURTHERMORE, THE PRESSURES OF MR. KISSINGER RESEMBLE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TOO MUCH AN "ORDER" TO BE ACCEPTABLE. BUT IT WOULD NO DOUBT BE MORE CORRECT TO OPENLY AVOW THE RISKS INHERENT IN A POLICY OF EXPORTATION THAT IS TOO UNCONTROLLED.

7. QUOTE: ONE MAY PERFECTLY WELL UPHOLD THE DOCTRINE THAT PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR ARMS IS IRRESISTIBLE AND INEVITABLE; THAT IT MIGHT EVEN HAVE POSITIVE SIDES FOR THE EQUILIBRIUM OF CERTAIN REGIONS; FINALLY, THAT THE MONOPOLY THAT THE TWO SUPERPOWERS SEEK TO HOLD IN THIS DOMAIN IS NOT A SOLUTION. WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER TO SPEAK OF THE PROBLEM OPENLY RATHER THAN TO PRETEND TO SATISFY THE DEMANDS OF ONE GROUP OR ANOTHER? END QUOTE.
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